

# The Bandera PROPHEET

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Tarpley youth camp wastewater treatment permit application gains opposition from residents

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The Bandera Prophet

A youth camp's application for a wastewater treatment permit near Tarpley has spawned a grassroots protest campaign. Concerned about maintaining the water quality in Commissioners Creek and Hondo Creek, the Friends of Hondo Canyon, a group of more than 55 families in the area, has officially launched its opposition.

The group will hold a meeting this Sunday, Aug. 18, at Anton Haner Center (the old Tarpley School House) located at 25 Valentine Lane, Tarpley, Texas 78883, to discuss the permit they say will allow the discharge of pollutants from treated sewage into Commissioners Creek.

The TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) TPDES (Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit request WQ0015713001 was submitted by Sam Torn of RR 417, LLC.

If approved, the camp would be authorized to discharge treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 49,000 gallons per day.

Commissioner's Creek is an uncontaminated spring-fed tributary to Hondo Creek and the Frio River, and is part of the Nueces River Watershed and Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone. Friends of Hondo Canyon is asking the camp owners to agree to a zero discharge permit

that would prevent the pollution of the environmentally sensitive waterway.

TCEQ has scheduled a public meeting on Aug. 26, at 7 p.m., at the Mansfield Park Recreational Hall in Bandera.

Additional information on Friends of Hondo Canyon is available at their website: [www.friendsofhondocanyon.org](http://www.friendsofhondocanyon.org) or on facebook

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